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A
 SEASONABLE
MEMORIAL
 IN SOME
 HISTORICAL NOTES
 UPON THE
LIBERTIES
 OF THE
PRESSE and PULPIT:
 WITH THE
 Effects of Popular Petitions, Tumults,
 Associations, Impostures, and
 Disaffected Common Councils.

The Third Edition.

To all Good Subjects and True Protestants.

By Roger L'Estrange.

London, Printed by J. Bennet for Henry Brome
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132928

William L. Sullivan
 Bequest

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A Seasonable MEMORIAL, &c.

THis Title may perhaps give the Reader an expectation, if not a Curiosity to hear more then the Author is willing to tell him: For it is his intent, only to expose the mystery of the *Contrivance*, of our late Troubles, without the names of the *Persons*; and to shew that the great work of Destroying *three Kingdoms* was only the Project, and Influence of a Private Cabal: and that the Rebellion it self was excited and carry'd on by the Force, rather of an *Imposture* then of a *Confederacy*; the Generality of the people, being powerfully, and artificially Possess'd by the pretended Patrons of our Religious, and Civil Liberties, that *Po-pery* and *Arbitrary Power* were breaking in upon us, and the design promoted by the Interest of a Court-Faction; It could not chuse but create in them the tenderest affection imaginable for the one Party, and as violent a Detestation for the other: Especially considering that the *Person* and *Authority* of the *King* were as yet *Sacred*; and not any man opened his Mouth, but for his *Honour*, and *safety*; the *Purity* of the *Gospel*, and the Peace of the *Kingdome*. For such was the Reverence the Nation had, at that time, for the *King*, and the *Law*; that the least word against the Government had spoyl'd all.

This *Double-refining Spirit* came into the World, even with the *Reformation* it self; when by flying from one Extream to another, it left the Truth in the middle; which *Calvin* himself takes notice of in a Letter to the *Protector* (in *Ed. 6.*) *The e are two sorts of Seditious men* (says he, speaking of the *Papists* and the *Puritans*) *and against both these must the sword be drawn; For they oppose the King, and God himself.* It was the same Spirit that mov'd the Distemper afterward at *Frankford*; and the same still, that made such havock in *Scotland*; and flew in the Face of *Q. Eliz.* her *Parliaments* and *Councill*: till she was forced to suppress it by Severity and Rigour. Her successor King *James*, after a long Persecution in *Scotland*, and a fresh attempt upon him

at *Hampton Court*, by the same Faction; took them up roundly, once for all, and so past the rest of his days in some measure of quiet. But the Plot succeeded better under King *Charls*; when taking advantage of his Majesties necessities, with the Infinite goodness of his Nature, that made him apt to believe the best of all men, and a Popular mixture in the House of Commons, that was still ready for their turn, they pursu'd him with *Remonstrance* upon *Remonstrance*, through four *Parliaments*; and at last by the help of the *Act* for the continuance of the *Parliament*, *Tumults*, and that *Execrable Libel* of Dec. 15. 1641. Entitled, *A Remonstrance of the State of the Kingdome*, they accomplished their ends, under the Countenance of the *Fifth*. By what steps, and Methods they gained their Point, comes now to be consider'd.

The Schism
led the way
to the Sediti-
on.

Their first advance towards a *Sedition*, was the introducing of a *Schism*; by distinguishing themselves, under the Name of the *Godly Party*, from the rest of the Nation: which they found to be the safest way of approach, and the most plausible expedient. To this end they brought in *Lecturers* over the Heads of *Parochial Ministers*; whose maintenance being dependant upon the Faction, made them wholly at the devotion of their Patrons.

Emissaries in
Corporations

They had their *Emissaries* also in all Corporations, and Populous parts of the Kingdom, that were appointed as *Feoffees*, to deal for *Impropriations*, under the charitable pretext of making a better *Provision* for the *Ministry*. And these were men of publick business in the World, as Clergy-men, Lawyers, &c. well known, and made famous for their Zeal, by the Reputation of so pious an Undertaking. By this project they advanced considerable Sums of Money; but the Incumbents little the better for it: For either it stuck to the *Feoffees* fingers, or it was applyed to other uses; and with the *Tithe* of a *Parsnage* in one place, a *Lecture* was set up in another.

Seminaries of
Novices.

After the Choice of fit Instruments; their next work was to secure them from any trouble of *Church-Censures*: To which end, they bought some *Headship* or other in an University, for some Eminent man of their own way, for the training up of Novices in their Discipline. And then they had a kind of a *Prætical Seminary* at St. *Antholins* in *London*; where their Disciples were in a manner, upon a Probation, for Abilities, and Affections: and out of this Nursery they furnish'd most of their New-bought *Impropriations*.

These

These young *Emissaries* of theirs had their Salary, and were Their Agents subordinate to a *Classis* or *Clero-Laicall Consistory*, to be trans- were upon planted at their pleasure. And yet this Consistory did not so their behavi- strictly confine themselves to their own Members ; but upon our. Letters Testimonial from the Patriarchs of the Party, that such or such a man was fit for their turn ; or had given proof of his fidelity to the Cause, by undergoing some sentence for contemning the Orders of the Church, and persisting Obstinate in that disobedience: to such a man, (I say) in such a Case, they commonly allow'd a Preference. And the better to avoid the denger of the Spiritual Courts, they made it their business to provide *Commissaries* of their Own Leaven, where they had any special Plantation. And Lastly, to make sure of their Agents, that they should not fall off when they had serv'd their own turns, they kept them only as *Pentioners at pleasure*, and liable to be turn'd out at any time, either if they cool'd in the *Holy Cause*, or fail'd of Preaching according to the direction of the *Conclave*.

Let it be noted here by the by, that the design and mischief of those *Lecturers*, when they could not so well Congregate in Their Lecturers are sup- *Private Meetings*, is, in our days, supply'd, if not outdone, by ply'd by our Conventicles, by a greater number of *Conventicles* ; to the very same Intent ; and God grant it prove not with the like effect.

They were as yet but upon the *Preparatory* to the great work of their *Thorough Reformation* ; which in plain *English* was the The People were pos- sion'd from the Pul- *Dissolution of the Government*. So that the Pulpits had nothing pit. more to do at present, then to dispose and accomodate the Humours and Affections of the People. The Common Subject of the Pulpit (and they all sung the same Song) was *First* to irritate the Multitude against Popery : which had been well enough, if they had not, *Secondly* by sly Insinuations, under the Notions of *Arminianism*, intimated the Church of *England* to be leaning that way. By this Artifice the People were quickly brought into a dislike of *English Communion* ; and by degrees into as fierce an Aversion to the One Church, as to the Other. Now whatsoever the *Government Lost*, the *Faction Gain'd* : And those *Pedantique Levites*, that brought so many dreadfull Judgements upon this Nation, themselves ; were by the Credulous, Tumultuary Rabble cry'd up and Idolized, as the very *Moses's* that stood in the Gap to avert them. Having by this means render'd the *Government Odious*, and given some credit

The boast of
their Num-
bers.

to the *Schism*; their next Instruction was, to make Proclamation of the Numbers, the quality and the sobriety of the Persons aggrieved; to possess the outside with a confidence, and the other with an apprehension of their strength! *Thousands of Souls ready to Famish, (they cry) for want of the Bread of Life. How many Insufficient, negligent and scandalous Pastors? How many Congregations destitute of able, Faithfull Teachers; Preaching in season and out of season, and labouring in the Word? Alas! they dare not consent to any Addition to, or Diminution of Christs Worship, or to the Use of the Inventions of Men, in Gods Service. They desire only the Freedom that Christ and his Apostles have left unto the Churches? and to serve God according to the Example of the best Reformed Churches abroad. This is the Case of Thousands of the upright of the Land.* Let it be understood, that the *Presse* all this while kept pace with the *Pulpit*? only now and then there started out a Party upon the Forelorn, to make Discoveries, and try the Temper of the Government. Some scap'd, and others were taken and censur'd; as *Leigh on Burton*, *Prin*, and *Bastwick*, who only shew'd themselves inconsiderately before their Friends were ready to Second them.

They grow
upon the Go-
vernment.

We shall see now how they changed their stile with their Condition; and how their boldness encreased with their Interest. Their grievances at first, were only a dark and a doubtfull Prospect of *Popery*, and *Popish Innovations* afar off; and an anxiety of thought for the calamities that were coming upon Gods People through the corruptions of the Times. But success opening their Eyes, they are coming now to discover more and more *Popery* nearer hand: They find the *Church-men* to be *Popishly affected*; the *Liturgy* to be no other then an *English Mass-Book*; the *Hierarchy* it self and all the *Courts*, and *Officers* depending upon it, to be directly *Anti-Christian*: They charge his Majesty to be *Popishly affected*, and all that will not renounce him, to be either flat *Papists* or *Worse*, imposing *Protestations*, *Covenants*, *Engagements of Confederacy* against both *King* and *Church*; and *Oaths of Abjuration*: as the *Tests* of a *Loyall Protestant*: passing an *Anathema* upon any man that interposes betwixt their malice, and their Sovereign: They prostitute the Sacred Function for Money; they suck the blood of *Widdows* and of *Orphans*; By violence taking possession of *Eighty five Livings* at one clap, out of *Ninety seven*, within the Walls of *London*; exposing so many *Reverend*, and *Loyall Divines* with their Families, to the wide World

world to beg their Bread: They Preach the People into *Murder, Sacrilege, and Rebellion*, they pursue a most gracious Prince to the Scaffold, they animate the *Regicides*, calling that *Execrable Villany* an Act of *Publique Justice*, and Entitling the *Holy Ghost* to the Treason.

If this General recital of the Rise and Progress of their Actings be true; the Reader has here before him the Issue, and the drift of their pretended *Scruples*, the Exposition of their *Protestations, Covenants, and Designs*: wherein it cannot but be observ'd how their *Consciences* widen'd with their *Interests*: And this may serve to satisfy any man, whither People are then a going, when they come to tread in the same steps. But however, for a further support to the credit of this Memorial, we shall now subjoyn some undeniable Evidences of the whole matter, out of their Own words and Writings: where we shall finde Mr. *Hooker's* saying made good, in the Preface to his *Ecclesiastical Polity*. What other sequel (says he) can any wise man imagine but this; that having first resolved, that attempts for Discipline without Superiours are Lawfull, it will follow in the next place to be disputed what may be attempted against Superiours. But now to our Proofs, which we shall give you from Point to Point, and from the very *Rabbies* of the *Schism*.

The square
their Consci-
ences to the
Interests.

First, As to the CHURCH: Good People (says Burton) lie under the Bondage of Conscience in point of Liturgy. 2dly. In bondage of Conscience under Ceremonies. 3dly. Of Conscience under Discipline. 4ly. Of Conscience under Government.

Burton on
Psal 53-7-8.
Jun. 20. 1641.

How the Presence and Preaching of Christ did scorch and blast those Cathedrall Priests, that Unhallowed Generation of Scribes and Pharisees!

Pa. 21.
Case on Ezra
10 2, 3. pa. 33.

Prelacy and Prelaticall Clergy; Priests and Jesuits; Ceremonies Case on Isa. and Service-Book; Star-Chamber and High Commission-Court, were mighty Impediments in the way of Reformation.

43 4. Pa. 19.

The Scots were necessitated to take up Arms for their just Defence against Anti-Christ, and the Popish Priests.

Ward on Deut
33 16. pa. 18.

Now to the LITURGY. The Service of the Church of England is now so dressed, that if a Pope should come and see it, he would Claim it as his own. And again, what credit is this to our Church, to have such a Form of Publique Worship, as Papists may without offence Joyn with us in? This we have from the *Smectymnians* themselves,

E. Cal.

E. Cal. and Stephen Marshall being part of the Club. Now (says Bishop Hall) If the Devill confess Christ to be the Son of God, shall I disclaim the Truth because it passeth through a damned mouth ? And what did they give us, in exchange for this Form of Publique worship, but a Directory without either the Decalogue, or a Creed in't ?

Dispu. against English Popish Ceremonies, pa. 11. Let not the pretence of Peace and Un. ty cool your Fervour, or make you spare to oppose your selves unto those Idle and Idoliz. d Ceremonies, against which we dispute.

Smectymnus, pa. 58.

Their next sling is at the HIERARCHY it self. The *Plastring, or palliating of these Rotten Members, [Bishops] will be a greater dishonour to the Nation, and Church, then their cutting off: and the Personall Acts of these Sons of Belial being connived at, become National sins.*

Marshall before the Commons, Jun. 15. 43. pag. 25.

The Roman Emperors wasted the Saints in Ten several Persecutions, but all these were nothing in Comparison of this destroyer. All their Loyns are not so heavy as the little finger of Antichrist.

Case of the Covenant, 1643. pa. 47.

The Prelacy of England which we swore to extirpate, was that very same Fabrick and mode of Ecclesiasticall Regiment, that is in the Antichristian World. And again ; As thy Sword Prelacy hath made many Women Childlesse, many a faithfull Minister Peoplelesse, so thy Mother Papacy, shall be made Childlesse among Harlots : your Diocesses, Bishoplesse, and your Sees Lordlesse. Pag. 51.

Marshall's Pe. regyrique 1643. pa. 21.

Carry on the work still ; leave not a Ragg that belongs to Popery : Lay not a bit of the Lords building, with any thing that belongs to Antichrist, but away with it Root and Branch, Head and Tail, till you can say, now is Christ set upon his Throne.

Woodcock on Gen. 4. 23. pa. 12.

Were they not English Prelates that conspired to sell their Brethren into Romish slavery ?

Faircloth, on Josh. 7. 25. pa. 28.

'Tis not partial Reformation, and Execution of Justice upon some Offenders will afford us help, except those in Authority extirpate all Achans with Babylonish Garments ; and Orders, Ceremonies, Gestures, be rooted out from amongst us. Trouble they will bring upon us for the time to come, if they be not now cut off, Pag. 36.

Case on Isaiah 43. 4. pa. 18.

As to the KING and his P A R T Y, what a sad thing is it, my Brethren, to see our King in the head of an Army of Babylonians, refusing as it were to be called the King of England, Scotland, Ireland, and chusing rather to be called the King of Babylon.

Calamy's Sermon, Dec. 25. 44 pa. 18.

Those that made their Peace with the King at Oxford, were Judases of England ; and it were just with God to give them their Portion with Judas.

Here

Here follows next, their Opinion of the COVENANT. *Case on the The Walls of Jerico have fall'n flat before it ; the Dagon of the Covenant, Bishops Service-Book brake its neck before this Ark of the Cove- 1643 pa 65. nant, Prelacy, and Prerogative have bow'd down, and given up the Ghost at its feet.*

Take the Covenant, and you take Babylon: the Towers of Babilon, and her Seven Hills shall move.—It is the Shibolet to distinguish Ephraimites from Gileadites. Pag. 27. Not only is that Covenant which God hath made with Us, founded upon the Blood of Christ, but that also which we make with God, Pag. 33. *Caryl's Sermon at the taking the Covenant, Oct. 6. 43.*

See now the TENDERNESS of these men of tender Consciences. *Whensoever you shall behold the hand of God in the fall of Babylon ; say, True here is a Babilonish Priest crying out alas ! alas ! my Living ; I have Wife and Children to maintain. Ay, but all this is to perform the Judgement of the Lord. Pag. 13. Though as Little ones they call for pity, yet as Babylonish they call for Justice, even to Blood. pag. 11.* *Bridges on Revelations 4. 8.*

We are now entring upon the State of the WAR ; wherein you will finde in the first place who sounded the Trumpet to it. *To you of the Honourable House, Up, for the Matter belongs to you : We even all the GODLY MINISTERS of the Country will be with you.* *Faircloth on Folsb. 7. 25. Pag. 25.*

The First Enginiers that batter'd this great Wall of Babylon, who were they, but the poorer, and meaner sort of People, that at the First joyn'd with the Ministers to raise the Building of Reformation. *Marshall's Sermon June, 15 43. Pa. 15.*

Here is an Extraordinary appearance of so many Ministers to encourage you in this Cause, that you may see how real the Godly Ministry in England is unto this Cause. (This was upon calling in the Scots.) And again, If I had as many Lives as I have hairs on my head, I would be willing to Sacrifice all those Lives for this Cause. Ibid. —You shall read Numb. 10. that there were two Silver Trumpets ; and as there were Priests appointed for the Convocation of their Assemblies, so there were Priests to sound the Silver Trumpets to proclaim the War, And Deut. 20. When the Children of Israel would go out to War, the Sons of Levi, one of the Priests, was to make a Speech to encourage them. *Ca.'s Speech at Guild-Hall, Oct 6. 43.*

Nor were they less cruel and fierce in the Prosecution of the War, *Herl. Jan. 15. on Psal. 95.*

War, then they were forward in *Promoting* it. *In vain shall you in your Fast with Joshua, lie on your faces, unless you lay your Achans on their Backs: In vain are the High Praises of God in your Mouths, without a Two edged Sword in your hand, Pag. 31.*

Herle on Gen. 22. 5. pa. 23. Faircloth, on Josh. 7. 25. *The Blood that Ahab spar'd in Benhadad, stuck as deep and as heavily on him, as that which he spilt in Naboth.*

The Lord is pursuing you, if you execute not Vengeance on them be-times, Pag. 48.—Why should life be farther granted to them, whose very life brings death to all about them? pag. 50.

Case on Dan. 11. 32 44. *Cursed be he that with-holdeth his Sword from blood; that spares when God saith strike, &c. pag.*

And let it not be now pretended that this War was not Levy'd against the King; for they both disclaim his Authority and even the opposing of him on expresse terms. *It is lawfull (says Dr. Downing of Hackney, in a Sermon to the Artillery Men) for defence of Religion, and Reformation of the Church, to take up Arms AGAINST the King. It is commendable (says Calamy) to fight for peace, and Reformation AGAINST the Kings Command. And Case again. Why come not in the Scottish Army AGAINST the King? If the Devil can but once get a Prophet to leave Gods service for the Kings, he hath taken a Blew already, and is ready for as deep a Llack as Hell can give him. pa. 28.*

But what do they say all this time to his AUTHORITY?

Cal's Theses in a Sermon Dec. 25. 44. *The Parliament, whom the People chuse, are the Great and only Conservators of the peoples Liberties. pag. 2. They are the chief Magistrate, pag. 38. All those that fought under the Kings Banner against this Parliament, fought themselves into slavery; and did endeavour by all bloody and Treacherous ways to subvert Religion and Liberties, pag. 9. The Lords and Commons are as Masters of the House, pag. 22.*

Jenkin's Petition. *The Parliament of the Common-wealth of England without the King 1651. were the Supreme Authority of this Nation.*

Herles Sermon before the Commons, 1644. *The Houses are not only requisite to the Acting of this Power of making Laws, but Coordinate with his Majesty in the very Power of Acting, pag. 42.*

Baxters Holy Common-wealth. *The Reall Sovereignty here in England was (says Baxter) in King, Lords and Commons, pag. 72. And those that conclude that the Parliament being Subjects, may not take up Arms AGAINST the King, and*

and that it is Rebellion to resist him, their grounds are sandy, and their Superstructure false. pag. 459. 460.

The next point is their Animating the MURDER of the *Herle* before KING. *Do Justice to the Greatest; Sauls Sons are not spar'd; no the Commons nor may Agag, or Benhadad, tho' themselves Kings. Zimri, and Nov. 5. 44. Cozbi (tho Princes of the people) must be pursu'd into their Tents: This is the way to Consecrate your selves to God. pag. 16.*

The Execution of Judgment is the Lords word; and they shall be Stickland's cursed that do it negligently. And cursed shall they be that keep back Thanksgiving their Sword in this Cause. You know the story of Gods Message unto Ahab, for letting Benhadad go upon Compassion. pag. 26. Sermon Nov. 5. 44.

But you shall now hear the MURDER of his Sacred Majesty press'd more particularly in these Words. *Think not to save your selves by an unrighteous saving of them, who are the Lords, the Commons and the Peoples known Enemies, you may not imagine to obtain the favour of those against whom you will not do Justice: For certainly, if you act not like Gods in this particular, against men truly obnoxious to Justice; they will be like Devils against you. Observe that place, 1 Kings 22. 31. compared with Cap. 20. It is said in Cap. 20. that the King of Syria came against Israel, and by the mighty power of God, he and his Army were overthrown, and the King was taken Prisoner. Now the mind of God was (which he then discover'd only by that present Providence) that Justice should have been executed upon him, but it was not. Whereupon the Prophet comes with ashes upon his face, and waited for the King of Israel, in the way where he should return; and as the King passed by, he cry'd unto him, thus saith the Lord, because thou hast let go a man whom I appointed for Destruction, therefore thy Life shall go for his Life. Now see how the King of Syria, after this, answers Ahab's love: about three years after, Israel and Syria engaged in a new War, and the King of Syria gives command unto his Souldiers, that they should fight neither against small nor great, but against the King of Israel. Benhadads Life was once in Ahabs hand, and he ventur'd Gods displeasure, to let him go. But see how Benhadad rewards him for it? Fight neither against Small nor Great, but against the King of Israel, Honourable, and Worthy. If God do not lead you to do Justice upon those that have been great Actors in shedding Innocent Blood, never think to gain their Love by sparing of them; for they will, if Opportunity be ever offer'd, The Kings return again upon you. And then they will not fight against the poor, Murderers and mean ones, but against those that have been the Fountain of that courage'd.*

Brook's Sermon before the Commons
Dec. 26. 48

Authority and Power which have been employed against them.

Have you not sins enow of your Own, (says another) but will ye wrap your selves up in the Treachery, Murther, Blood, Cruelty, and Tyranny of others? p. 17. Set some of those Grand Malefactors a mourning (that have caused the Kingdom to mourn so many years in Garments roll'd in blood) by the Execution of Justice, &c. pa. 19.

Tantum Religio potuit suadere Malorum. And we are not yet at the Top on't neither; For to look back upon that hideous Impiety, not only without remorse, but with satisfaction, is a piece of hardness, and Inhumanity, till this Age, and this Case, perhaps unheard of.

Fenkin's Sermon before the Commons
Sep. 25. 56.
pa. 23.

Worthy Patriots, (says another of the same Order) you that are our Rulers in this Parliament, 'tis often said, 'tis often said, we live in times wherein we may be as good as we please; wherein we enjoy in Purity and plenty the Ordinances of Jesus Christ, praised be God for this; Even that God who hath deliver'd us from the Imposition of Prelatical Innovations, Altar-Genuflexions, and Cringings, with Crossings, and all that Popish trash and Trumpery. And truly I speak no more then I have often thought, and said, The Removal of these Insupportable Burthens, Countervails for the Blood and Treasure shed and spent in these late Distractions: Nor did I as yet ever hear of any Godly men, that desired, were it possible, to purchase their Friends, or Money again, at so dear a rate, as with the return of these, to have those soul-burthening, Anti-Christian Yoaks re-imposed upon them. And if any such there be, I am sure that desire is no part of their Godliness; and I PROFESS MYSELF, IN THAT TO BE NONE OF THE NUMBER.

Baxters Holy Common-wealth
486

And M. Baxter likewise in effect says as much, viz. *That having often searched into his heart, whether he did lawfully engage in the War, or not, and whether he did lawfully encourage so many thousands to it, he tells us that the Issue of all his search was but this, that he cannot yet see that he was mistaken in the main Cause, nor dares he repent of it, nor forbear doing the same, if it were to do again, in the same State of things.*

Mr. Baxters Cases of Conscience
Theſes
137. 181.

We might carry the aggravation yet a step farther, in a Remarque or two upon his *Political Theſes*, where he took as much pains in 1659. to keep out his present Majesty, as he did in the late War to drive out his Royal Father; casuistically resolving upon the point then in Hope and Prospect; that in that state of things, the King himself could not justify the resuming of his Government, nor his People the submitting to it. But this is enough to recommend

recommend the same persons over again, to the care of another Reformation, that were so dutifull in the former ; and the Government needs not doubt but they will be just as kind to his Majesty as they were to his Father. Good God ! that any thing in Humane shape, that Glories in the Murther of his Sovereign, should make a face at a Ceremony !

Here's no amplyfying of the Matter, no forcing of constructions, Packing of Presidents, or suborning of Proofs ; But the Doctors of the *Schism, Cited, Produc'd, and Judg'd, out of their own mouths* : and in so clear a manner too, as to leave no place for a doubt, either of the Fact, or of the Designe. We could give you an account of the many good Offices they did in the various Revolutions of the War, and upon the Pinching Exigences of the State : As the promoting of *Petitions, Tumults, Protestations, Oaths and Covenants*, of all sizes and colours : the Consecrating of the Rebellion by Authorities of *Scripture* ; Dividing *Wives* from their *Husbands*, *Sons* from their *Fathers*, Preaching away the *Apprentices* from their *Masters*, and setting *Jesus Christ* in the Head of the *Sedition*. The artifices of their *Fasts and Thanksgivings*, their Cajoling the City out of their *Bags*, and the simple multitude out of their *Lives and Duties* ; the Influence they had upon bringing in the *Scots*, their faculty both of Creating *Fears and Jealousies*, and of Emproving them ; their miraculous *Discoveries of Plots of their own making* : Their *Sermons* were a kinde of *Domestique Intelligence*, and people went to Church as to a Coffee-house, to hear News and Fables. We could shew you likewise how they shifted their *Principles* with their *Interests*, and from 1640. to 1660. how these Mercenaries of the Pulpit complied with every turn of State : But we have rak'd far enough already in this puddle, and it is high time to Proceed.

Exorc tuo.

The Schismatics did the Faction many good Offices.

If a man might with a fair *Decorum* call so direfull a *Tragedy* a *Puppet-play*, we should tell you that you have hitherto seen only the *Puppets* of this *Pretended Reformation* ; and that they signified nothing of themselves, but as they were guided by the *Masters* of the *Machine*, from under the Stage, or behinde the Hanging. Now we cannot better lay open this Practice and Confederacy, then by setting forth the admirable Harmony and Concert that appear'd betwixt the *Lay-Caball*, and the *Ecclesiastick* ; agreeing in the same method, in the same steps, in the same cause, and in the same Opinion. Only that which was

The Pulpi
only spoke as
the Cabal di-
cta ed.

matter

Their agree-
ment in Me-
thod and de-
signe.

matter of *Policy* in *Private*, was made matter of *Conscience* and *Religion* in *Publick*, First, they finde out Corruptions in the Go-
vernment ; as matter of *Grievance*, which they expose to the
People. Secondly, they Petition for Redress of those Gri-
evances, still asking more and more, till something is deny'd
them. And then Thirdly, they take the Power into their own
hands of Relieving themselves, but with *Oaths* and *Protestations*,
that they Act only as *Trustees* for the *Common Good* of *King* and
Kingdom. From the pretence of *Defending* the Government
they proceed to the *Reforming* of it ; which *Reformation* proves
in the end to be a *Final Dissolution* of the Order both of *Church*
and *State*. This we shall deduce as briefly as we may.

A deduction
of our Late
Troubles.

After the Fatall Pacification at *Berwick* ; *June* 17. 1639.
(upon the *Scots* Insurrection, who kept not any one Article
that was there agreed upon) the King called a Parliament, that
met *Apr.* 13. 1640. which at the first was thought to be well e-
nough disposed, till Sir *Hen. Vane* (then Secretary of State)
demanded *Twelve Subsidies*, in stead of *Six*, which put the Com-
mons into such a flame, that upon *May* 4. his Majesty, by the
Advice of the Council, thought fit to Dissolve them. In *August*
following, the *Scotch Confederates* (holding very good Intelli-
gence with the *English*, entred *England* with an *Army*, which the
King oppos'd with what force he was at that time able to Raise,
upon his own Credit. His Majesty, upon this pinch, Summons
his *Great Council of Peers* to assemble at *York*, *Sep.* 24. where
they met accordingly, and advised the King to a Treaty, which
was held at *Rippon*, and a Peace was there Concluded and Sign-
ed *Octo.* 26. His Majesty being ply'd in the *Interim* with Petitions
to call a Parliament, and his work cut out ready to his hand, in
the matter of *Property* and *Religion*. Those *Petitions* might have
been spar'd, the King having before hand resolved to call a Par-
liament, to meet on the 3d of *November* next. They were no
sooner met, but they fell upon *Grievances* and *Impeachments*, be-
ginning with the Earl of *Strafford*, and the Bishop of *Canterbury*,
and so proceeding, till all his *Majesties Friends* were made *Tray-*
tors, and the *Law* it self was found to be the *Greatest Grievance*.

Exact Colle-
ction pa. 4.

There is a Malignant and Pernitious Design (says the Remon-
strance of Dec. 15. 41.) of subverting the Fundamental Laws, and
Principles of Government, upon which the Religion and Justice of
this Kingdom is firmly establish'd. And there are certain Councillors
and Courtiers, who for private Ends have engaged themselves to fur-
ther

ther the Interest of some Forreign Princes and States, to the Prejudice of his Majesty, and the State at Home. Take notice now, that the King had already (by their own confession) pass'd more Good Bills to the advantage of the Subj^{ts}, then had been in many ages. Coat and Conduct-money were all damn'd ; The Earl of Strafford beheaded. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Judge Bartlet, and several other Bishops and Judges Impeach'd ; two Bills pass'd, the One for a Triennial, the Other for Continuance of the Present Parliament ; the Star-Chamber, High-Commission, Courts of the President, and Council in the North taken away, the Council-Table Regulated, the Power of Bishops and their Courts abated ; Innovators and Scandalous Ministers terrify'd by accusations ; the Forrests and Stannary-Courts brought within compass ; and yet after all this, other things pa. 15. of main Importance for the Good of this Kingdom are in Proposition. But their Intention pag. 19. is only to reduce within Bounds that exorbitant Power which the Prelates have assumed ; to unburden mens Consciences of needless and superstitious Ceremonies ; Suppress Innovations, and take away the Monuments of Idolatry : To support his Majesties Royall Estate with Honour and Plenty at home, with Power and Reputation abroad ; and by their Loyall Affection, Obedience and Service, to lay a sure and lasting Foundation of the Greatness and Prosperity of his Majesty and his Royall Posterity after him, pa. 2. Declaring and Protesting further to this Kingdom and Nation, and to the whole World, pag. 163. in the presence of Almighty God, for the satisfaction of their Consciences, and the discharge of that Great Trust which lies upon them, that no Private Passion or Respect, no evill Intention to his Majesties Person, no designe to the prejudice of his JUST Honour and Authority engaged them to raise Forces, and take up Arms against the Authorours of that War, wherein the Kingdom was then Inflam'd.

Pag 16.

Let us see now how well they acquitted themselves as to this Profession ; They put the Kingdom into a Posture of Defence by the Authority of Both Houses pag. 96. They require an Obedience to it, Pag. 112. They Vote it a Breach of priviledge, not to submit to any thing, as Legal which they declare to be Law. Pag. 114. And declare pag. 150. that upon Certain Appearance, or Grounded Suspition ; the Letter of the Law shall be improved against the Equity of it ; and that the Commander going against its Equity, discharges the Commanded from Obedience to the Letter : to shorten the business, they make it Treason, upon any pretence whatsoever, Pag. 576. to assist his Majesty in the War, with Horse, Arms, Plate, or Monies ;

Exact Collec-
tions.

nies ; and his Majesty Sums up the Malice of that Declaration in these *Six Positions*.

Six Treas-
nous and Se-
ditionous Po-
sition.
Pag. 297. 298.

First, *That they have an absolute Power of Declaring the Law ; and that whatsoever they declare to be so, ought not to be questioned either by King or People : So that all the Right, and safety of the Prince and Subject, depends upon their pleasure.*

Secondly, *That no Presidents can be Limits to bound their Proceedings ; which if so, the Government of the Turk himself is not so Arbitrary.*

Thirdly, *That a Parliament may dispossess of any thing wherein the King or Subject hath a Right for the Publick Good ; : (speaking all this while of the remnant of the two Houses.) That they without the King are this Parliament, and Judge of this Publick Good ; and that the Kings Consent is not necessary. So that the Life and Liberty of the Subject, and all the Good Laws made for their security may be dispos'd of and Repeal'd by the Major Part of both Houses, at any time, present, and by any ways and means procured so to be, and his Majesty has no Power to Protect them.*

Fourthly, *That a Member of either House ought not to be troubled or medled with, for Treason, Felony, or any other crime, without the Cause first brought before them, that they may Judge of the Fact, and their leave obtained to proceed.*

Fifthly, *That the Sovereign Power resides in Both Houses of Parliament ; the King has no negative Voice, and becomes Subject to their Commands.*

Lastly, *That the Levying of Forces against the Personal Commands of the King (though accompany'd with his presence) is not Levying War against the King : But to Levy War against his Laws and Authority (which they have power to declare and signify) is Levying War against the King ; and that Treason cannot be committed against his Person, otherwise then as he is intrusted with the Kingdom, and discharging that Trust ; and that they have a power to judge whether he discharge it or no. And all this still, for the maintainance of the true Protestant Religion, the Kings JUST Prerogatives, the Laws and Liberties of the Land, and the Priviledges of Parliament, Pag. 281. Nay they will not allow the King any great Officer or Publick Minister, the Power of Treating upon War, or Peace, or any matter of State, conferring Honours ; no not so much as the Power of appointing any Officer, Civil or Military, without leave of the two Houses. The Scale of their wickedness, in One Word, (wherein*

(wherein their hireling-Pulpitiers fall in as pat with them as two Tallies) was this. *First*, they fell upon the Kings *Reputation* ; they invaded his *Authority* in the next place ; after That, they assaulted his *Person*, seiz'd his *Revenue* ; and in the Conclusion, most Impiously took away his *Sacred Life* : At which rate, in proportion, they treated the Church, and the rest of his Friends, and laid the Government in Confusion.

For the compassing of these accursed ends, they still accommodated themselves to the matter they had to work upon. They had their *Plots*, and *false allarms* for the *simple*, their *Tumults* for the *fearfull*, their *Covenants*, *Associations* for the *Factions*, and in *fine*, the *Party*, was a Receptacle for all sorts of *Liber-tines*, and *Male-contents*. But the great difficulty was the gaining of the City : which could not be effected, but by embroyling the Legal, and ancient constitution of that Government. For there was no good to be done upon the *Imperial Monarchy* of *England*, without First confounding the *Subordinate Monarchy* of the City of *London*, and creating a perfect understanding betwixt the *Cabal*, and *Common-Councill* : which was very much facilitated, by casting out the *Loyall*, and *Orthodox* Clergy, and teaching all the *Pulpits* in *London* to speak the same Language with *Margarets Westminster*. But let us consider the Government of the City of *London*, First, in the due, and Regular Administration of it ; and then in its corruptions, and by what means it came afterwards to be debauch'd.

The City of *London*, was long before the Conquest, Govern'd by *Port-Reeves* : and so down to *Richard the First*, who granted them severl Priviledges in acknowledgment of the Good Offices they had render'd him. But the *First Charter* thed had for the Choice of their own *Mayor*, or *Governour*, was confer'd upon them by *King John*, in these words. *Know ye that we have granted to our Barons (or Freemen) of our City of London, that they may chuse unto themselves a Mayor or themselves. And their following Charter of Henry the Third runs thus. We grant also unto the said Citizens, that they may yearly present to our Barons of the Exchequer (we or our Heirs not being at Westminster) every Mayor which they shall first chuse in the City of London, to the end they may be by them admitted as Mayor. In a following Charter of Ed. 2. That the Mayor and Sheriffs of the City aforesaid, may be chosen by the Citizens of the said City ; according to the Tenour of the Charter of our Progenitors, (sometimes Kings of England) to that end made ; and not otherwise. The Charter of Hen. 8. runs to the*

Baits for all Parties.

The Legal Government of the City of London.

Mayor, Commonalty and Citizens of London, *Conjunctim*. The Charter of *Ed. 3.* is thus. *We have granted further for Us and our Heirs, and by this our present Charter confirm'd to the Mayor, and Aldermen of the City aforesaid; that if any customs in the said City hitherto obtained and used, be in any part Difficult or Defective, or any thing in the same newly happening, where before there was no remedy Ordained, and have need of amending, the said Mayor and Aldermen, and their Successours with the assent of the Commonalty of the same City, may add and ordain a remedy, meet, faithfull, and consonant to reason, for the Common profit of the Citizens of the same City, as oft, and at such time as to them shall be thought expedient.*

The Charter
of the Lord
Mayor and
Aldermen.

We have the rather cited these clauses in favour of the Lawfull Government of the City; in regard that they have been so often, and so earnestly perverted another way. The Charter we see, is directed to the *Lord Mayor and Aldermen* of the City; the Power is granted to them, to propose the making or mending of Laws, as they see occasion; only by the assent, or dissent of the Commons, they are ratified or hindred. And those Laws are only Acts of Common-Council, that is to say, not of the Commonalty alone, but of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, in concurrence. Some there are that mistake the word *Conjunctim*, and would have *Joyntly*, to be *Equally*: as if one could not have a greater Interest or Authority, and another a lesse, though in a *Joynt Commission*. The Power, in short, of summoning, and Dissolving Common-Councils, and of putting any thing to the question, does legally reside only in the Lord Mayor. And the *Active Power* in the *Making* of a Law, and the *Negative Voice* in the *Hindring* of a Law, have been by long Prescription and usage, in the Lord Mayor and Aldermen. And these being *customs of the City*, every Freeman is to support and maintain them by the Obligation of his Oath. And in farther proof that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen are by their Charter invested with the Powers aforesaid; We shall need only to inform our selves who they are that in case of any publick Disorder, are made answerable for the Misdemeanour. Richard the Second granted a Commission to enquire of all and singular Errours, Defects, and Misprisions in the City of London, for want of Good Government in the Mayor, Sheriffs and Aldermen of the said City. And for the Errours, Defects, and Misprisions, in their Government found, they were fin'd 3000. Marks: the Liberties

berties of the *City* seiz'd into the Kings Lands, and a *Warden* appointed to govern the *City*: till in the end, the Duke of *Glocester* prevail'd upon the King to reinstate them.

We have here given you a short view of the Orderly Government of this glorious *City*; which is perchance one of the best qualify'd Establishments both for King and People, under the cope of Heaven. We are now coming to lay open by what Arts and Contrivances it came to be corrupted; and in a manner, to lay Violent hands upon it self: Which is a story that may serve some for curiosity, and others for Edification.

The People being extreamly discompos'd in their minds ^{In what manner the people were wrought upon.} upon the Apprehension of *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power*; and shaken also in their *Allegiance*, upon a strong Impression that it was a design in their Governours themselves to introduce it. It was no hard matter to inveigle them into *Petitions* for Relief, *Protestations*, *Associations* and *Covenants*, for the Common defence of themselves, in the preservation of their *Liberties* and *Religion*; and into a favourable Entertainment of any plausible pretext even for the Justification of Violence it self: Especially the *Sedition* coming once to be Baptized *Gods cause*, and supported by the Doctrine of *Necessity* and the unsearchable *Instinct* and *Equity of the Law of Nature*: And all this too, Recommended and Inculcated to them by the men of the whole World, upon whose Conduct and Integrity, they would venture their very Souls, Bodies, and Estates. Being thus perswaded, and possess'd; the coming in of the *Scots* serv'd them both for a Confirmation of the ground of their fears, and for an Authority to follow that Pattern in their Proceedings; both Causes being founded upon the same Bottom, and both Parties united in the same Conspiracy. So that this opportunity was likewise improved by all sorts of airy Phantastical Plots, frivolous and childish reports, to cherish the Delusion: And now was the time for *Tumults* and *Out-rages* upon publique Ministers, and Bishops, nay and upon the King himself; till by Arms and Injuries they forc'd him away from his Palace, when yet they had the confidence to charge his Sacred Majesty with making War upon his Parliament. But this would not yet do their business, till they got possession to the *Militia*; which at length they did: the Presses and the Pulpits all this while giving life and credit to their Proceedings.

The Artifice
of Petitions.

EIK. B.

Upon the tuning of mens minds for *Invocations*, by making them sick of the present state of things ; the People were easily prevail'd upon to *Petition* for what they so much wish'd for and desir'd : and this was the second step towards the *Tyranny*, and *Slavery* that ensu'd upon it. The *Rude people* (says his Late Majesty) in his *Reflections upon (TUMULTS)* are taught *first to Petition, then to Protect, then to Dictate, and at last to Command.* The Faction made use of Petitions as common House-breakers do of screws ; they got in by little and little, and without much noise, and so Rissled the Government : Or they did rather like the counterfeit Glasiers, that took down the Glasse at Noonday under colour of mending the Windows, and then Robb'd the House.

To make a right Judgment upon a Popular Petition we should first consider the matter of it. Secondly the wording of it. Thirdly, the manner of Promoting it. fourthly, the Probable intent of it. And Lastly, we should do well to consult History and Experience to see what effects such Petitions have commonly produced.

As to the *Subject Matter* of Popular Petitions, it is either for publique concernment or private ; Generall or particular : That is to say concerning the whole Body of the People, or only some part of it. It is either within the Petitioners *Cognizance*, and *Understanding*, or it is not ; It varies according to the Circumstances of *Times, Occasions, and Parties* : and it often falls out, especially where it treats of *Reformation*, that the one half of it is a *Petition*, and the other a *Libell*. The Case that is purely *Private*, or *Particular*, cannot properly be called *Popular* ; and so not to our purpose. There are likewise *Mixt Cases* of *Publick*, and *Private* ; as in the Calamities of *War, Pestilence, Fires, Inundations* and the like ; where *Numerous Subscriptions* are matter of *Attestation*, rather then *Clamour* ; on the behalf of such and such *Known, and Particular Sufferers*. Now there is great heed to be given to the Petitions of men both that *Understand* what it is they ask, and whom the Law has made *Competent Judges* of it. But where the Question is, the Redresse of *Grievances* in matter of State, the *Complaining* part of the *Petition* makes it only more *Artificiall Scandall* : Besides the dangerous boldness of Intermeddling in points which they neither have any thing to do withall, nor one jot *Understand*. Such as the Pe-

tition

tion of the *Rabble*, in and about *London*, in 1640. against *Episcopacy*, *Root and Branch*; the *Porters Petition* in 1641. about the *Militia*, being told that it was only a Petition to Prohibit *Watermen* from carrying of *Burthens*, That of the *Stanford School-boys*, which their Masters made them Subscribe against *Bishops*; Or the *Scottish Petition* in 1637. of *Men, Women, Children, and Servants*, (in those very terms) against the *Service-Book*. These few instances may suffice to shew the folly (and worse) of peoples stickling for they know not what.

Next to the *Matter* of the Petition we should consider the *Manner* of it: For he that asks he knows not what, may ask any thing in the World, for ought he knows. And it is not the humility of the Stile, that can justify the publishing of a Reproach upon the Prince: Did not *Joab* take *Amasa* by the Beard with the Right hand to kiss him, and yet at the same time strike him under the Fifth Rib that he dy'd? It is no Breach of Charity, when a Multitude are drawn into a Petition blindly to sollicite the Interests of Other men, to take all ambiguities and Equivocalls in the worst sense.

And then the Manner of Promoting these Petitions goes a great way. It was a common practice in the Late Times, for the confiding Members of severall Countries to draw up Petitions to themselves, and Lodge them in the hands of severall of their Faction Country-men here in the City, to gather Subscriptions, Where, and how they pleas'd, in the Name of their respective Countries. Their Seditious Preachers (says the Late King) and Agents are by them, and their speciall and particular Directions sent into the severall Counties to insuse Fears and Jealousies into the minds of our Good Subjects, with Petitions ready drawn by Them, for the People to Sign, which were yet many time by them changed three or four times before the delivery; upon accidents, or occurrences of either, or both Houses. And when many of our poor deceived People of our severall Counties have come to the City of London, with a Petition so framed, altered, and Signed, as aforesaid; that Petition hath been Suppres'd, and a New one ready drawn hath been put into their hands, after their coming to Town (in so much as few of the Company have known what they Petition'd for) and hath been by them presented to One or Both our Houses of Parliament. as that of Bedfordsh. and Buckinghamsh.; Witnesse these Petitions; and amongst the rest that of Harfordshire; which took notice of matters agreed on or dissented from, the night before the delivery. Which was hardly time enough to get so many thousand hands, and to travel to London.

Many Petitions for they know not what.

The manner of Promoting Petitions.

Ex. Cap. 536. Fob'd Petitions impos'd upon the Nation by the Faction.

London on that Errand. These were not the *Petitions* of the *Subscribers*, but of those that set them on ; who did in effect, but *Petition* the People to *Petition* them again ; and that which was taken and imposed as the sense of the *Nation*, was only the *Project* and *Diffate* of the *Caball*. Only with the *Porters*, they thought they had sign'd a *Petition* against the *Watermen*, and it prov'd to be against the *Government* (so innocent were the greater part of the *Petitioners*.)

The intent of Popular Petitions is to be consider'd.

Confederate Petitions are but the Prologue to confederate Practices.

Never satisfy'd.

Ex. Coll.
p. 548.

Now as to the *Intent* of those *Petitions*, since we cannot enter into the hearts of men, we are allow'd to judge of the *Tree* by the *Fruit*. And we must distinguish too betwixt the *Intention* of the *Dictatours*, and that of the *Subscribers* : the *Former* *Contriving* with an *Ill Intention* that which the *Latter* *Executed* with a *Good One*. Let the *Matter* of the *Petition* be never so fair, yet (as was said before) if it be a business out of the *Petitioners* *Sphere*, and *capacity*, either to *meddle in*, or to *understand* ; it is a *suspicious* way of *Proceeding*. Such were the *Confederate Petitions* of *England* and *Scotland* for a *Parliament* in 1641. which were but a *Prologue* to the *Opening* of the *Subsequent Confederacy* against the *Government* : When the *Petitions* that follow'd, sufficiently expounded the meaning of the *Former*. They *Petition'd* against *Ecclesiastical Courts*, *Ceremonies*, *Scandalous Ministers*, *Bishops Votes* in *Parliament*, and *Episcopacy it self*, against *evill Councillors*, *Monopolies*, *Corruptions of State*, *Courts of Oppression* and *Innumerable Grievances* ; Were they not gratify'd in all this ? and did not those very *Concessions* make them still *Bolder* and *Bolder* ? More and more *Greedy* still, and more *Insatiable* ? They must have the *Militia* too, the *Command* of the *Kings Towns*, and *Forts*, and put the *Kingdom* into a posture of defence themselves. They cry for *Justice* upon *Delinquents* ; the very *Rabble* demanding the *Names* of those in the *House of Peers* that would not consent to the *Proposition* made by the *House of Commons* concerning the *Forts*, *Castles*, and the *Militia*, (when it was rejected by a *Major Part* twice.) And declaring them for *Enemies* to the *Commen-wealth* : *Loyall* and *Legall* *Petitions* being still rejected and the *sedition* contain'd : In a *Word* ; they grew higher and higher, till they brought the *King* to the *Block* ; which was no more then a *Natural Conclusion* from such premises. And the *First* *Petition* (how plausible soever) was the *Foundations* of all our *Ruins*. These *Petitions* you must know, do not ask to *Obtain*, but to be *Deny'd* ; and only seek an *Occasion* to

to pick a quarrel; and if they cannot finde it, they'l make it. if this be not provided for, they tell us, *It is the Case of many a Thousand in England, and great troubles will come of it*: The very *Stile* of them is *Menacing*; and certainly nothing can be more Evident then their evil *Intention*. There's Malice in the *Publication* of them too; beside that by the *Number* of the *Subscriptions*, they take an Estimate of the *strength* of their *Party*; which is their safest way of *Mustering*.

The Last Section under the Head of *Popular Petitions* is the *Effect* of them: which in our Case was no less then the destruction of *Three Kingdoms*; and let the *Matter* be what it will, the *Method* is a most necessary Link in the chain of a Rebellion. And it is the securest experiment too, of attempting a commotion, being the gentlest of Political Inventions, for feeling the pulse of the People. If it *takes*, the work is half done; and if *Not*, 'tis but so much Breath Lost, and the *Design* will keep Cold. But *may not men Petition* (you will say) *and Petition for a good thing*? Yes, if the thing be *Simply Good*, the *Petitioners*, *Competent Judges* of it, and every man keep himself to his *Own Post*, I see no hurt in't. But for the *Multitude* to interpose in Matters of *State*; as in the *Calling* or *Dissolving* of Parliaments; *Regulation* of *Church Government*; or in other like Cases, of *Doubtfull* and *hazardous Event*, wherein they have no *Skill* at all, nor any *Right* of *Intermeddling*; why may not 20000. *Plow-Jobbers* as well *Subscribe* a *Petition* to the *Lord-Mayor* of *London* for the *Calling* of a *Common-Council*? Or as many *Porters* and *Carmen* here in *London* put in for the better government of the *Herring-Trade* in *Yarmouth*? every jot as reasonable would *This* be as the *Other*. And that's not all neither, for the *Thing* they take to be a *Cordiall*, proves many times to be a *Poyson*: and after *Subscription* they are yet to learn the very *meaning* of the *Petition*: And then the *Numerous Subscriptions* prove it manifestly to be a *Combination*: For the *Number* of *Hands* adds nothing to the *Weight* of the *Petition*; and serves only for *Terrour* and *Clamour*. It is a kinde of an odd way of putting the *Question*: as who should say, *Sir, May we be so bold?* and the *sufferance* or *Patience* of the *Prince* seems to answer them, *Yes, you may*: and so they go on.

The Effect of Popular Petitions.

Upon what Terms they may be allowed.

Let every man keep to his own post.

The Transition is so natural, from a *Popular Petition* to a *Result*,

A Natural
Transition
from a *Popular Petition* to
a Tumult.
EIK. BA.
upon Tu-
mults

Ex. Coll 532.

The Insolences
of the Rab-
ble upon the
Parliament

Pag. 533.

Upon the
City.

And upon the
King himself.

Pag. 538.

The first Tu-
mults punish-
ed by tumults.

mult, that the *One* is but the *Hot Fit* of the other ; and little more in effect then a *more earnest way* of *Petitioning*. By these (says his Late Majesty) must the House be purg'd, and all Rotten Members (as they please to call them) cast out. By these the Obstinacy of men resolv'd to discharge their Consciences must be subdu'd ; by These, all Factions, seditious and schismatical Proposals of Government Ecclesiastical or Civil must be back'd and abett'd, till they prevail. God forbid (says Mr. Pym) that the House of Commons should proceed in any way to dishearten people to obtain their just desires in such a way. It would fill a Volume to tell the Insolencies of the Rabble upon Lambeth-House upon the Persons of the Archbishop of York and all the Loyall members of both Houses ; their Outcries for Justice upon Land and Strafford, under the Conduct of Ven and Manwaring : Their Exclamations, No Bishops, No Popish Lords ; Proclaiming several of the Peers by their Names to be evil and rotten-hearted Lords : Their besetting of Sheriff Garnets House, when the King Din'd there, crying out, Priviledges of Parliament ; their affronting the Lord Mayor (Sir Richard Gurney) and tearing his Chain from about his Neck, and using Sir Thomas Gardyner (the Recorder) little better ; following them with Reproaches, Remember the PROTESTATION. Nay the King himself had his Coach stopt, and Walkers Seditious Libel To your Tents O Israel, thrown into it in the street. This was upon the dispute about the Five Members, when at their Return from Westminster they made a stand at White-hall-gate, bauling out, that they would have no more Porters Lodge, but speak with the King when they pleas'd. About a hundred Lighters and Long-Boats were set out by water, laden with Sacres, Murthering-Pieces, and other Ammunition, drest up with Mast-clebs and Sircamers as ready for fight ; calling out as they past by White-hall Windows, what's become of the King ? whither's he gone ? The Tower of London and Hull being both besieged at the same time. Now what was the End of These Tumults, but over and above the Guilt and Calamities of a Civil War, a Vengeance in the Conclusion upon the Heads of all the First Abettors of them ? These very men that first by Tumults forc'd away the King from Whitehall, and their Fellow-members from attending their Duty at Westminster, were Themselves afterward cast out, by succeeding Tumults, under the Character of Persons Disaffected, (the Independents at that time being too hard for the Presbyterians) and the City too was whipt with its own rod. No man is so blinde (says the Late King) as

not

not to see herein the Hand of Divine Justice; They that by Tumults, first occasioned the Raising of Armies, must now be chastened by their own Army for new Tumults. In fine, a Tumult is a seditious action in Hot Blood; and only accounted the less Criminal, for that there is not in it the Malice Prepenſe of a Rebellion. If it succeeds, the Principals of the Faction form it into a conspiracy; but if it miscarries, it passeth only as That did in Scotland, 1637. for an Outrage of the Rabble.

EIK. B.A.
Upon the Dis-
traction of
the Parlia-
ment Army,
and City,

Where many People agree in the Desiring of the same thing, they seldom fail of Engaging afterwards towards the Procuring of it; and so the Project advances, from Petition to Protestation, or Covenant; the One Leading so naturally to the Other, that the Late Popular Petition was no sooner set on foot, but it was immediately followed upon the Heel with the Proposall of an Association, pretending the Practice of 57. Eliz. for their War-rant. It would be endless to run through all the Leagues, Covenants, Bonds, Protestations, Engagements, Oaths, &c. of the Late times; and as needless to set forth the Histories of the Miseries they brought upon us, after so many Nar-ratives and Discourses already Published, upon that Subject: So that our Business shall be rather to discover the Imposture of those Practises, then to dilate upon the Story.

Of Oaths,
Covenants,
and Associa-
tions.

All Popular Leagues, without the Authority of the Supream Magistrate are to be lookt upon as Conspiracies; but when they come once to bear up in Defiance of it, the Case is little better then a State of Actual Rebellion. The Pretence of the Late Engagements was only to assert and Compass the Ends of the fore-going Petitions: And it was the Master-piece of the Faction to keep the Vulgar in the dark, by disguising the Drift, and the Scope, both of the One, and the Other. It was by this follow-ing train of thoughts that the Multitude in 1641. were Egg'd on into the foulest crimes, and the Heaviest calamities Imaginable. The Lord bless us (say they) we are all running into the French Government, and Popery: the Courtiers and Prelates will be the Undoing of us all; the king is a good man enough of himself, if he had but Good people about him; but he's so damnably led away by Popish Counsellors; I would to God he would but call a Parliament and hearken to their advice. But why should we not press him to't; and ferret out all these Caterpillars from about him? 'Tis true, the King can do no wrong, but his Ministers may: and yet the King is bound by

The Leagues
of Subjects
among them-
selves are
Conspiracies.

The celutions
of 1641.

the Law, as well as We. Had not we better get hands to a Petition, and joyn to stand by one another as One Man, for the preservation of our Liberties, and Religion, then stand gaping with our fingers in our Mouths till all is lost? Little did these people Imagine all this while that Death was in the Pot, and that instead of the way to Peace and happiness they were then in the High-road to Destruction. And This they might easily enough have discover'd if they had but diligently consider'd the *Opinions* and *Professions* of the Heads of these *Covenanters* and *Subscribers*; among which, there was not one man of a hundred that was not a *known* and *avow'd* Enemy both to *Church* and *State*. But they plung'd themselves like *Curtius*, into the Gulph, as Devotes for the mistaken preservation of their Countrey. But the delusion will better appear, by applying only *Common Reason* to the *Imposture* it self: And first, let us consider their *Protestation* of May, 1641.

The Protestation.

I A. B. do in the presence of Almighty God, promise, vow, and protest to maintain and defend, as far as lawfully I may, with my Life, Power, and Estate, the True Reformed Protestant Religion, expressed in the Doctrine of the Church of England, against all Popery and Popish Innovations within this Realm, contrary to the same Doctrine, and according to the Duty of my Allegiance to his Majesties Royall Person, Honour, and Estate; as also the Power, and Priviledges of Parliament, the lawfull Rights and Liberties of the Subjects, &c. Now as the whole Pretext was plausible, so the saving clause in it [as far as lawfully I may] made it go down without much scruple.

The Juggle of the Covenant.

The *Solemn League and Covenant* of 1643. (which was the *Bond* of the confederacy of the Two Nations) had the same *salvo* in it too, and the very same specious pretences for the *Protestant Religion*, the *Honour* of the King, the *Priviledges* of *Parliament*, and the *Liberty* of the Subject: only enlarged to the setting up of the *Scottish Discipline and Government*, the *Exirpation* of *Prelacy* and *Popery*; and the bringing of *Delinquents* to punishment: So that from the maintaining of the *Government*, they are now come to the *Dissolving* of it; and from the *Defence* of their own *Rights* and *Liberties*, they are advanced to the *Invading* of other peoples. We might reflect upon a world of *Solæcisms*, *Illegalities*, *Contradictions* and *Defects*, both in the *Givers* and *Takers* of this *Protestation* and *Covenant*: As the *Nullity* of any *Engagement* entered into, *Contrary to Law*; the altering of the *Government*,

ment, without the consent of his Majesty in Parliament; The perjurious *Fraud of Swearing* in *One sence*, in opposition to the *Known Intent* of the *Imposer* in *another*; beside the *Inconsistence* of these *Vows* with *Themselfes*, and the *Contractions* they bear to *One another*. Wherefore we shall rather detect the *Cheat* in the Thing it self, and the wonderfull *Rashness* of the *Undertakers*, then play the *Casuis*t upon the Question.

Take the *Protestation* as it runs with that Qualifying Clause in it [*as far as lawfully I may*] and there is hardly any thing more in it then what a man is oblig'd to do without it: So that without some Mystery in the bottom, the thing appears in it self to be wholly idle and impertinent, and not answerable to the solemnity of making it a National Duty. And then the *Imposition* was in it self an *Usurpation* of *Sovereign Power*. The *Covenant* (I must confess) was Ranker, having an Auxiliary Army of about 20000 *Scots* to second it. But was ever any thing in appearance more *harmless*, *Loyall* or *Consciencious*, then this *Protestation*? and if the fellow of it were now in agitation, how would the Town Ring, of any *Church of England-Man* for a disguised Papist, that should refuse to take it? And yet what ensu'd upon the peoples joyning in this officious piece of *mis-guided Zeal* and *Duty*? when they were once In, there was no longer any regard had to *Grammar* or *Literal Construction* of it, but to the *List* of those that took it, as the *Discriminating Test* of the Party; They that contriv'd it, did likewise expound it: and every man was bound implicitly to believe that only to be *Lawfull*, which they told him *was* so, without being allowed the liberty of Judging of his own *Actions*. He that looks into the Records of that Revolution, will finde the *Contributions*, *Subscriptions*, *Loans*, *Levies*, and briefly the highest violences of the war, the boldest attempts upon the *Honour* and *Person* of the King, the *Priviledges* of *Parliament*, and the *Property* of the *Subject*, to be charg'd at the foot of the account, upon the Tye of the *Solemn League* and *Protestation*, and every man bound, upon the forfeiture of his Life, Liberty, and Estate, to observe it, in their sence. Over and above the *Iniquity* of these Oaths, how Ridiculous is it for every Paltery Fellow to swear to the doing of he knows not what, and the *maintaining* of the *Priviledges* of *Parliament*, which no man living understands? We shall conclude this Point, with the words of the Late King [*Confederations by way* EIK. BA. of *Solemn Leagues and Covenants*, are the *Common Road* as'd in all

The Protestation an Oath of Policy not Conscience.

Factions and powerful Perturbations of State or Church.] And our Covenanters did but write after the Copy of the Holy League of France.

Imposture;
upon the Peo-
ple.

The people being now prepar'd for any mutinous Impressions, poyson'd in their affections to the Government, besotted into the apprehension of Remote and Invisible dangers, and United in the Resolution of Defending their Rights against all Opposers; the Designe would have been there at a stand, for want of matter to work upon, if the Caball had not fed and entertain'd their fears and Jealousies, with stories of Plots and Discoveries nearer hand, where still the *Parliament* and the *City* were in the greatest hazzard. One while the *Northern Army* was coming up, and strong *Guards* appointed upon all Passes within 20. miles of *London*, and then comes a Letter to the *Close Committees*, of a *Conspiracy* to seize the Earl of *Argile*, and some other Lords in *Edenburgh*: and upon This, an Order is presently issu'd out to the Justices of *Middlesex*, *Surry*, and *Southwark*, to secure the *City* by strong *Watches*; because (says the Order) *the mischievous Designs and Conspiracies lately discover'd in Scotland against some Principal and Great men there, by some of the Popish Faction, gives just occasion to suspect that they may maintain Correspondency Here, and practice the like mischief.* They had a Touch now and then at the mighty preparations of *France* and *Denmark*, for the invading of the Nation, and assisting the King to govern by an *Arbitrary Power*. And then the *Army underground at Ragland Castle* was a terrible thing, and miraculously discovered by an *Inn-keepers Servant* at *Rosse*, to *Alderman Attons Coachman*. These whimsies were but so many approaches toward the *Militia*; and they are so extravagant, that the man that was upon the place, and can witness the effect of them, has hardly the face yet to make the Report.

A false Alarm Upon *Twelfth Night* 1641. the *City* was allarm'd at Mid-night with a Report of 1500. *Horse*, that design'd to surprize the *City*. Whereupon a matter of 50000. men were presently in Arms, and the Women at work in the streets, with *Joynt-stools*, *Empty Casks*, and other Lumber, to interrupt their passage.

The goodwo-
men could
not sleep for
fear of the
Tower guns.

Upon the Kings making Sir *Tho. Lunsford* Lieutenant of the *Tower*, the good women of the *City* could not sleep for fear of the Guns. But yet without any Objection, his Majesty presently puts in Sir *John Byron*. They could make no exception against him, till at last (as my Authour has it) *Lieutenant Hoo-*

ker,

er, the *Agna-Vita-man*, and *Nicholson* the *Chandler*, enform the Common-Council, that since he came to be Lieutenant, there was nothing to do at the *Mint*, though it was made appear that the *Mint* had more business since the Gentlemen was *Lieutenant*, then ever it had in so short a time before : But their Trade being in the Retail of *Brooms*, *Candles*, and *Mustard*, their Ignorance in the other point might be the better excus'd.

In Aug. 1643. upon a Vote for sending *Propositions of Peace* to the King, the very next day there were *Papers scatter'd*, and *posted up and down the City*; requiring all persons well-affected to rise as One man, and come to the *House of Commons* next Morning, for that 20000 Irish Rebels were landed. And this was the News of the Pulpits next day; when, (though Sunday) a *Common-Council* was call'd late at Night, and a *Petition* there fram'd against Peace. This *Petition* was next morning recommended to the *Commons* by *Pennington*, then Mayor, with a Rabble at his heels, declaring that the *Lords Propositions for Peace* would be destructive to Religion, Laws, and Liberties, and that if they had not a good answer they would be there again the next day, with double the Number.

A Tumult for fear of a Peace.

We must not forget the design upon the Life of Mr. *Pim* by a *Plague Plaister*, that was wrapt up in a Letter and sent him, which Letter he put in his Pocket for Evidence, though he threw away the Plaister. And there was another discovery that came as wonderfully to light : a Taylor in a Ditch in *Finsbury-Fields* over-heard two men talking of a Plot upon the Life of my Lord *Say*, and some other Eminent Members of both Houses; and so the design never took effect.

Nr. Pym's Plague plaister.

A Taylor discovers a Plot againg my Lord Say.

At this rate were the people gull'd from day to day, with fresh and palpable *Impostures*; never was any Nation certainly under such an *Obsession of Credulity*, and *Blindness*; but as the Cause was founded in *Hypocrisy*, so it was by *Forgery* to be supported. And yet these *Legendary Tales* stood the Faction in very good stead; by authorizing the People now and then to be take themselves to their *Arms*, and to put themselves upon their *Guard*; which did, by degrees, let them into the Command of the *City Militia*; out of which *Egg* (as one says) came forth the *Cockatrice of Rebellion*. Thus was poor *England* frighted out of a *Dream of Dangers* into cutting of *Throats* in Earnest: Out of a fear of *Popery*, into a prostitution even of *Christianity*; and out of an apprehension of *Tyranny* into a most despicable itate of *Slavery*.

The people Impos'd upon by ridiculous Stories and Impostures.

No foresight
wanting in the
Faction.

Slavery. The Change of Government now in agitation, had been long in Project, and no foresight wanting for the furtherance of the design. None so diligent at the *Military Yard, or Artillery-Garden*, as the zelots of the *Faction*; and upon the Vacancy of any considerable Employment there, who but they to put in for the Command? Nor were they less industrious to screw themselves into the Bench of *Aldermen and Common-Council*, insomuch that a Motion was made there (with an Eye to two *beggerly*, and *Fanatical Captains*,) that *Honest men*, (for that's their Name when they are their own Godfathers) might bear the Magistracy, and the City the expence. But what did all this amount to, without a *Fond of Men, Money, Arms, and Ammunition*, to carry on the Work? So that their businessse was now to make sure of the CITY, as the only means of their supply: But *that*, they found could never be brought about, without a *Lord Mayor* for their Turns; Or else reducing the *Mayer and Aldermen* to a *Level* with the *Commons*: and establishing a firm correspondence betwixt *Westminster*, and *Guild-Hall*, the *One* to *Contrive*, and the *Other* to *Execute*. So that this was the thing they pitch'd upon, and the manner of their proceeding was as follows.

The Faction
could do no-
thing without
the City.

The Practices
of the Faction
upon the
Common-
Council.

Having *Pharisaically*, and *Invidiously* divided the people into *Two Parties*; *Themselves* forsooth, the *Godly Party*, and the *Friends of the Government*, the *Papists*: a little before *St. Thomas's day 1641.* (when the City chuses their *Common-Council*) they calumniated the *Old Common-Council-men*, as men too much inclining to the *Court*; sticklers for *Episcopacy*, and the *Common-Prayer*; and not at all zealous for *Religion*, (just as we cry out against *Papists*, and *Pensioners* now adays;) by this practice, they worm'd out *Honest men*, and chose *Schismaticks* into their places: and instead of *Sir George Benyon*, *Mr. Drake*, *Mr. Clark*, *Mr. Gardiner*,; *Deputy Withers*, *Mr. Cartwright*, and other *Loyall*, and *considerable Citizens*; they took in *Foulk the Traytor*, *Perkins*, (my *Lord Say's Taylor*,) and Others of the same stamp and Value.

The Com-
mon Council
impos'd upon
by the Faction
beyond presi-
dent.

Now though the *Election* be on *St. Thomas day*, they are never *Return'd* yet before the *Munday* after *Twelfth*; nor allow'd to Act as *Common-Council-men* till the *Indentures* of their *Election* be *Returned* from the *Wardmoot Inquest* to the *Town-Clark*; and a *Warrant* Issu'd from the *Lord Mayor* to the *Serjeant of the Chamber* to Summon them. But the Faction however made bold to dis-

pence

pence with these *Puntillo's*, (though the constant *Rule* and *Custom* of the *City*) and a *Common-Council* being held *December* 31. 1641. by the *Kings Express Order*, all that Gang of the *New Choice*, thrust themselves in, and took their places with the *Old*. This Intrusion was opposed by several, but out of respect to a *Message* from his *Majesty* which was then brought them by the Lord *Newbrough*, complaining of *Tumults* about *White-hall*, and *Westminster*, and recommending to the care of the *City*, the preventing of any further disorders: the question was let fall from the present ; and the Court apply'd themselves to dispatch an answer to his *Majesty* ; which was in effect, an *acknowledgment* of his *gracious Goodnesse* exprest to the *City* ; the *Courts* disavowing of the *Tumults* ; their promise of doing the best for the future *to prevent*, or *suppress* them, and their humble desire that whosoever should be found guilty of them, might be brought to condign punishment.

On the *Last of December*, the House of Commons under pretence of finding themselves in danger, sent to the King for a *Guard*, but it must be a *Guard out of the City of London*, and to be commanded by the *Earl of Essex*. To which *Message*, his *Majesty* offer'd them, *Jan.* 3. a *Guard* of his own appointment for their security : But this Trick would not pass upon the King: so that they were forc'd to do their business another way.

Upon the *Fifth of Jan.* another *Common-Council* was call'd by the *Kings Order*, when his *Majesty* was pleased, in person to acquaint the Court with the Reasons of his demanding the *five Members* the day before : admonishing them to harbour or protect those men in the *City*. *Fowke* and his new Brethren (contrary to all Right or President) were got in again, and there he most audaciously affronted his *Majesty* with a Discourse of *Fears* and *Jealousies*, *Priviledges of Parliament*, &c. the King only replying in effect, that they were dangerous men, and that they should have a *Legal Tryal*.

On the same day (being *Wednesday*) the House adjourned till the *Tuesday* following, and Order'd a Committee to set next morning at *Guild-hall* ; taking upon themselves little less than Sovereign Power. The Committee met at *Grocers Hall*, where the *Five Members* met, under the Guard of the *City-Train'd-Bands*, where they past such Votes of Priviledge as never any Age heard of before, extending it even to the *Exempting* and justifying of *Treason* it self.

On

The Committee;
Vote at
Grocers-Hall.

On Saturday, Jan. 8. upon a Debate for the safe meeting of the *Five Members* at Westminster the Tuesday following; the Result was, *That the Sheriffs of London should and might raise a Guard of the Train'd-Bands, for the Defence of the King and Parliament; and that they might warrantably march out of their Liberties.* A Rout of Sea-men offering their service by water, as the Other by Land. This Subject set all the Puritan Pulpits on work to inflame the people against their *Sovereign* in favour of the *Five Members*.

The King
withdraws
from London.

Upon the fatal 10th. of January, the King was forc'd to withdraw from London, which was then left at the Mercy of the Faction, and that every day, the Indentures of the *Election* were Return'd: Upon all Questions about These *Elections*, the Decision was formerly in the *Lord Mayor* and Court of Aldermen; but by the Violence and Importunity of these New Intruders, it is left to a *Committee* of the *Common-Council*, (being the Committee also for the safety of the City (so call'd): This Committee was their first approach toward the *Militia*; and then follow'd another, for putting the City into a *Posture of Defence*; consisting of *Six Aldermen* and *Twelve Commons*, most of them of the New Cutt: and 300*l.* per annum allow'd to Skippon, as an assistant to the Committee.

They settle
the Militia.

Having already modell'd the *Common-Council* to their liking they furnish themselves with all sorts of *Military Provisions*, augment the *Train'd-Bands*, from 6000. to 8000. the *Six Aldermen* are made Colonels, and the *Committee* for the *Posture of Defence*, are to choose their Officers; and authority of *Summoning Common-Councils* is taken away from the *Lord Mayor*, and lodg'd in the people of the Faction; and whensoever they'll have One call'd, the *Lord Mayor* must obey, without so much as asking a Reason for't.

And strip the
Mayor of his
priviledges.

They took away his Power also of *Dissolving* them, and kept him to his seat, till they thought fit to discharge him.

And again, whereas all Proposals were formerly offer'd to the Court, and all Questions put by the Recorder from the *Lord Mayor*; when the Faction had anything to propound, wherein the *Lord Mayor* would neither Command the Recorder, nor the Recorder act without the *Lord Mayor*, Ven, Pennington and Vassel help'd them out at a dead lift, with an Order from the House of Commons.

And finally, they brought the Orderly Constitution of the City

ty-Government to a *Levell*, confounding *Mayor, Aldermen* and *Commons* in the Blending of their Votes.

The *Schismatiques* have now got the *Riches* and the Strength of the City in a manner at their own Disposal, For if the *major* part of the *Common-Council* may Call, *Continue* and *Dissolve* the Court at pleasure, put what *Questions* they list, and Determine all things by a *Plurality of Votes*, there needed little more then a Pack't *Common-Council* to do their business.

The Faction
Makes of
the City.

Let us consider now the Harmony betwixt the *Two Junto's* of *Westminster*, and the *City*. The *Commons Jan. 26.* Petition'd his Majesty about the *Tower, Forts*, and the *Militia*: to which his Majesty returns them a Refusal, *Jan. 18.* in the most obliging Terms imaginable, telling them, *that he did not doubt, that his having granted more then ever King had granted, would ever persuade his House of Commons to ask more then ever Subjects had ask'd.*

The Com-
mons Petition
about the
Militia.
Ex. Col. 16.

About the beginning of *Feb.* there was held a *Common-Council*; which sat till One in the Morning. When the Court was quite weary, and tir'd out, *Ven* took that Opportunity of presenting an Order of the *Commons*, desiring a return of the Names of those Persons whom the City intrusted with the *Militia* of *London*. The Court was a little surpriz'd at it; but yet being desirous to be gone, and considering whatsoever past at One Council was in course to be debated at another, sent the Names of the *Committee* for the *Posture of Defence*, in return to the Houses Order. By this fetch, the *Lord Mayor, Sheriffs*, and *Court of Aldermen*, were understood to have voluntarily relinquish'd their Own interest, and lodg'd the Power of the *Militia* in the *Committee* for the *Posture of Defence*, whereof the *Major Part* was wholly at the Devotion of *Ven*, and his complices. At the next *Common-Council*, upon reading the Orders of the last meeting, some of the *Aldermen* Protested against them; as having no thought, of either shutting out the *Mayor*, or making the *Committee* so absolute as they found the two Houses had done. Whereupon it was mov'd that the Houses might be *Petition'd* to reverse the Order. But that being carry'd in the *Negative*, *Ven* produces another Order for the adding of *Sh'ippon* to the *Committee* for the *Militia*, which was carry'd without much Difficulty.

A Trick put
upon the
Lord Mayor
& Aldermen.

The Govern-
ment of the
City affront-
ed.

The Court of *Aldermen* reflecting upon the Indignities cast upon the *Mayor* and *Government* of the *City*, Petition'd the *House* apart from the *Commons*, that the *Mayor* and *Sheriffs* might be nominated of the *Committee*, but to no purpose; For they knew *Sir Richard Gourny* was a person of too much Honour and Loyalty, to comply with their Designs. After this Repulse, several of the most Eminent Citizens, both for Worth and Estates, Petition'd the *Two Houses* in their own Names for the Removal of That Scandal, but there was no relief to be had; and they were barbarously treated for their pains over and above. *Sir George Benyon* (to his Honour) as the framer and chief Promoter of that most reasonable Petition, was fin'd 3000*l.* Disfranchiz'd in the *City*, never to bear Office in the *Kingdom*, to be Committed for two year to *Colchester Goal*, and at the end of the Term to give security for his good Behaviour. Methinks the bare Recital of This Inhuman Insolence should turn the Blood of every honest Citizen.

The Tyranny
of this Com-
mittee.

This *Committee* was now become the Masters of the *Mititia*: they remov'd *Sir Richard Gourny*, and put *Pennington* into his place; they make *Ordinances* to pass for *Laws*, and *Rebellion*, to be a point of *Conscience*, they persecute the *Orthodox Clergy*, Oppress their *Fellow Citizens*, and the whole *Nation*; and where they have not *Credit* to borrow, they make use of their *Power* to *Take away*, living upon the Spoil, without any regard to the *Laws* either of God or Man. And to shew the world that as the *Faction* had subverted the *Government* of the *City*, so they intend- ed to perpetuate the slavery: See as follows.

Vicesimo Octavo, Februarii 1648.

*An Act of the Commons of England in Parliament Assembled,
For Removing Obstructions in the Proceedings of the
Common-Council of the City of London.*

THe Commons of England, in Parliament assembled, do Enact, and Ordain, and be it Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, that in all times to come, the Lord Mayor of the said City of London, so often and at such time as any 10. or more of the Common-Council-men do by Writing under their hands, request or desire him thereunto, shall summon, assemble, and hold a Common Council, and if at any time being so required or desired he shall fail therein, then the ten persons, or more making such request or desire, shall have Power, and are hereby Authorized by Writing under their hand, to summon or cause to be summoned, to the said Council, the Members belonging thereunto, in as ample manner as the Lord Mayor himself usually hath done, and that the Members appearing upon the same Summons, being of the Number of 40. or more, shall become a Common Council, And that each Officer whose duty it shall be to warn in, and Summon the Members of the said Council, shall perform the same from time to time upon the Warrant or Command of ten Persons or more so authorized as aforesaid: And it is further Enacted and Ordained, by the authority aforesaid, that in every Common Council hereafter to be assembled, the Lord Mayor of the said City for the time being, or in his absence, such Locum tenens as he shall appoint, and in default thereof, the Eldest Alderman present if any be, and for want of such Alderman or in case of his neglect, or refusal therein, then any other person Member of the said Council whom the Commons present in the said Council shall chuse, shall be from time to time President or Chairman of the said Council; and shall cause and suffer all things offered to or proposed in

E 2

the

the said Council to be fairly and orderly debated, Put to the Question, Voted and determined, in and by the same Council, as the Major part of the Members present in the said Council shall desire or think fit: and in every Vote which shall pass, and in the other Proceedings of the said Council, neither the Lord Mayor nor Aldermen, joyn't, or Seperate, shall have any negative or distinct Voice, or Vote, otherwise then with, and among, and as part of the rest of the Members of the said Council, and in the same manner as the other Members have, and that the absence and withdrawing of the Lord Mayor, or Aldermen from the said Council, shall not stop or prejudice the proceeding of the said Council, And that every Common Council which shall be held in the City of London, shall sit and continue so long as the Major part of the Council shall think fit, and shall not be dissolved, or adjourned but by and according to the Order or Consent of the Major part of the same Council: And that all the Votes and Acts of the said Common Council which was held 13 January last, after the departure of the Lord Mayor from the same Council, and also all Votes and Acts of every Common Council hereafter to be held, shall be from time to time duely Registered as the Votes and Acts of the said Council have used to be done, in time past. And be it further Enacted and Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, that every Officer which shall sit in the said Council, shall be from time to time chosen by the said Council, and shall have such reasonable allowance or Salary, for his pains and service therein, as the Council shall think fit: And that every such Officer shall attend the said Common Council, and that all Acts and Records and Register Books belonging to the said City, shall be extant, to be perused and searched into by every Citizen of the said City, in the presence of the Officer who shall have the Charge of keeping thereof, who is hereby required to attend for the same purpose.

Hen. Scobel-Cler. Parliament.

Take.

Take notice that the *Vote of Common Council* in the Act above-recited of *Jan. 13. 1648.* when the *Lord Mayor* went off, and dismissed the *Court*, was a *Treasonous Vote*, for the speedy bringing of the *King to Justice.*

You have here the State of the *New-Model'd Government* of the City (and effectually of the whole Nation) together with the Methods of *Hypocrisy* and State that brought us into that miserable Condition. And what were they but *Canting Sermons*, *Popular Petitions*, *Tumults*, *Associations*, *Impostures*, and *Disaffected Common-Councils* ? We have likewise set forth how these Advantages were gain'd with their Natural Tendency to the Mischiefs they produc'd. And who were they that promoted and brought all these Calamities upon us, but men of *desperate Fortunes* and *Principles*, *Male-contents*, *broken Tradesmen*, *Cobblers*, *Thimble-makers*, *Dray-men*, *Ostlers*, and a world of this sort of People, whose Names are every where up and down in the History of our late Confusions; Men of *Ambition* and *Interest*, and agreeing in nothing else but an United Disaffection both to Church and State. The contrivers of all these mischiefs (says his Late Majesty) know what *outrages* have been made by them; and with what *Importunity* for *Offices* and *Preferments*; what great *Services* should have been done for us; and what other *Undertakings* were (even to have sav'd the Life of the Earl of *Strafford*) if we would confer such *Offices* upon them. And *Henry Martin* very Honestly blurted it out, *A pox o' your snivling for Religion* (says he) we fight for *Liberty*: And all their bawling to put other people out of employment was only to get themselves In. Thus they went on till the Government was made a Prey to the Faction; and the deluded Multitude too late made sensible of their Errours.

Methinks the People of *England*, after all this Experience, should be both *Wiser* and *Honester*, then by treading the same steps over again, to re-engage themselves in the same *Miseries* and *Crimes*: Or if both *Conscience* and *Common Prudence* should have quite forsaken us, the very *shame*, methinks of being fooled over again the same way, should move us to bethink our selves. Or if that very *shame* were lost too, it was so *Base*, so *Scandalous* a *Servitude*; we were *Slaves* to the Meanest of the *Rabble*: And our *Masters* were a greater Infamy to us then our *Fetters*; the very *Ignominy* cannot but work an *Indignation* in any thing that wears the Soul of an *Englishman*.

How we were destroyed, and

By whom.

Ex. Col. 534.

We must be made to engage in New Troubles.

This .

The Factions
Ingratitude.

This Paper and occasion will not bear the tracing of their *Ingratitudes* and *Tyrannies* at length; but in short, how barbarously did they treat even their Idoliz'd *House of Commons*; their *Assembly*; nay their *Covenanting Brethren* the *Scots*; when they follow'd them from *Newark* even to their Borders with a body of Horse at their Heels? their *Generall*, and the *Army* that set them up: in a most Eminent manner the City of *London*, though (as the Faction order'd it) the very Nurse and Supportresse of the Rebellion.

The Method
of our late
Troubles
fresh in our
Memories.

His *Sacred Majesty* can never forget by what means his Blessed Father was *Murder'd*; nor the *Bishops* forget the abuse and Profanation of the *Pulpits* even to the Extirpating of the Holy Order; the *Nobility* and *Gentry* can never forget the Illusions that were put upon them under the Appearance of *Religion* and *Duty*, by men that were void of both; neither certainly can the *Common people* forget how they were conjur'd into a Circle by *Sermons*, *Petitions*, and *Covenants*; when there was no getting out again.

Ungratefull
to the City.

We'll see a little of their *Ingratitude* now to the City of *London*; and whether they far'd any better then other people. First they stript them of the *Militia*, then of their *Charter* and *Privileges*, they turn'd their Government *Topsy Turvy*: *Tax'd*, *Disarm'd*, *Imprison'd*, and *Plunder'd* at pleasure; took down their *Chains*, and *Posts*, *Quarter'd* *Souldiers* upon them, *Garrison'd* the *Tower*, and several other places of the City; the *Army* Marching in Triumph through it, for the aggravation of their *Slavery*; they degraded the *Lord Mayor Reynoldson*, *Fin'd* him 2000*l.* and Committed him to the *Tower*, *April* 21. 48. for refusing to publish the *Proclamation* for *Abolishing* the *Kingly Office*: they Threatened to set fire to the City, and lay it in the *Dust*, telling the *Mayor* and *Aldermen*, in a Letter about the beginning of *Aug.* 1647. that they were unable to defend either the *Parliament* or themselves; and demanding to have the City deliver'd into their hands, which was submitted to, upon Conditions, of relinquishing the *Militia*, and 11. Members, delivering up the *Forts* and *Tower* of *London*, and all *Magazines*, and *Arms* therein, to the *Army*, disbanding their *Forces*, turning out all *Reformades*, and drawing off their *Guards* from the *Parliament*. In *Walkers Hist. of Independency*, these Particulars are to be seen at large.

The Plot driven on principally by Petitions.

It is remarkable, that what other means soever were occasionally made use of, the Plot was still driven on, from First to Last,

Last, mainly by PETITIONS, but none were admitted on the Other side: For so soon as ever any *Petition* appear'd that crost the Factions Interest; (as in several Cases from the *Agitators* of the *City of London*) there was presently a *strict enquiry* after the *Authours* and *Acttors* of them, and the *Design* immediately crush'd. They should have taken in the SUBSCRIBERS too, and issu'd out a *Commission of Enquiry*, wherein all the *Marks*, and *Subscriptions*, produced in the *Names* of so many thousands *Petitioners*, were really the *Acts*, and *Attestations* of the *Persons* so *Named*, and what *Arts* and *Menaces* were made use of for their procurement. No unnecessary caution, even in our present Case, to distinguish the *Sober*, and *well-meaning* *Subscribers*, from the *Fierce* and *Bloody* *Fifth-Monarchy men*, and other *Sects* that hold affinity with them; It being notoriously known, that a *Mark* is set upon the *Refusers* by those Factions, who are the violent sticklers in this proceeding, which carries the face rather of an *Intended Massacre*, then a *Petition*. This will seem no uncharitable Construction, when I shall tell you what a Noble Lord said in the House of *Peers*, Dec. 16. 42. Dutiful Child. They cheerfully undertook (says he) to serve against that Army wherein they knew their Own Fathers were; and on my Conscience (says he) I speak it to their Honour, had they met them alone, they would have sacrific'd them to the Commands of both Houses. And now you shall see their *Piety* expounded in another part of the same Speech. They (says he) who think that *Human Laws* can binde the Conscience, and will examine the *Oaths* they have taken, according to the Interpretations of Men, will in time fall from us: but such who Religiously consider that such *Moral Precepts* are fitter for Heathens, then for Christians; will not faint in their Duty.

A way to discover Counterfeits.

A Dispensari- on for perjury.

To bring this Pamphlet to a Conclusion, we shall only say this further in justification of it, that it was written with a very *Honest Intention*; that the matter of *Fact* is partly upon *Certain Knowledge*, and partly upon the credit of very *Warrantable Papers*. The principal Scope of it was, to lay open the *Mystery* and *Method* of the *Late Rebellion*; and so to expose it, that the same *Project*, and *Model* may not be made use of for Another.

The End.



